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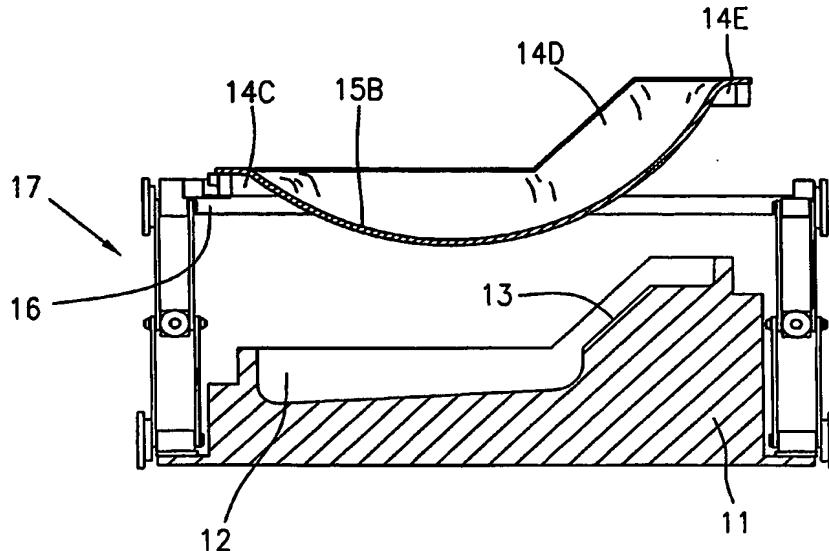
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THERMOFORMING HOLLOW BODIES OF THERMOPLASTIC MATERIAL



WO 2005/014262 A1

(57) Abstract: A method and an apparatus for thermoforming bodies in plastic material by means of a mold (11). A sheet (115) of thermoformable plastic material is heated to a plasticization temperature, supporting it along its peripheral edges. The heated sheet (15) is pre-shaped to create an enrichment of material, performing a sag by relative movements for approaching, raising and/or rotating its peripheral edges, maintaining the plastic sheet (15) in a suspended condition. The pre-shaped sheet (15) is then brought into close contact with the mold (111) and vacuum-formed making it adhere to the shaping surface (12) of the mold (11).

**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

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